

~~TOP SECRET~~

File No RAN/NGO/2/8

11
22

20

Embassy of India
Rangoon

~~16~~

A Phatterjee 12/15

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (सो.एन.वा.)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

DECLASSIFIED

Subject: ~~concrete~~ Chair of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

[P. 1-4-Corr.]

~~60~~

Downgraded to Secret

G. G. Swell

(G. G. SWELL)
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA
RANGOON.

keep
G. G. Swell
15/12/15



~~TOP SECRET~~

File No RAN/NGO/2/80

Embassy of India
Rangoon

~~16~~

Chatterjee 8/12/15

Joint Secretary to
Foreign Secretary, New Delhi
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

DECLASSIFIED

Subject: ~~Chair of~~ Chair of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Downgraded to Secret

(G. G. SWELL)
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA
RANGOON.

(1)

S.No.1

Letter No.F.49/2084/NGO dated 12 April 1980 DESTROYED.

ArBm

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TOP SECRET

RAN/NGO/2/80

April 23, 1980

Dear Shri Narasimha Rao,

X
X
(अरुण कुमार)
ARUN KUMAR CH.
संयुक्त सचिव (वि.)
Joint Secretary (CN)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

DECLASSIFY

There is one very important matter about which it is my duty to write to you. On the 23rd of January, 1979 at a formal ceremony the Chair used by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in Rangoon was presented to the Government of India. This Chair was especially prepared for him and was first used by him at the opening ceremony of Azad Hind Bank in Rangoon. Immediately thereafter the Chair was shifted to his residence in Rangoon and was used by him till the 24th of April 1945, when Netaji left for Bangkok. His residence in Rangoon, which is still in existence, was also the Headquarters of the Provisional Government of Free India. Therefore, this Chair was used by the President of the Provisional Government of Free India in Rangoon. On the 25th of April 1945, the Chair was, along with a few other pieces of furniture, removed to a safe place so that they could not be seized by the occupying British Army. The donor preserved this Chair with great care and was waiting for a suitable opportunity to present the Chair to the Government of India. In view of the great historical importance of this Chair it should, in my view, be preserved in Delhi preferably inside the Red Fort. The Chair is now in the custody of the Embassy. It is of a large size and it could only be carried by Thai planes which have now resumed service from Rangoon to Calcutta. Before, I accepted this Chair I satisfied myself about its authenticity by examining contemporary documents as well as by examining the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Azad Hind Bank and other close colleagues of Netaji in Rangoon. I shall be grateful if you will permit me to take this Chair with me when I return to India and hand over the Chair to any person authorised by you at the Calcutta airport.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A.N. Bose
(A.N. BOSE)

Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao,
Minister of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Telegram

O.T.C.

~~SECRET~~

(जयप्रकाश कुमार चटर्जी)
(JAYPRKASH KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (सा.एन.सी.)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

C.S.NO.41

From: Foreign New Delhi
To : Indembassy Rangoon

DECLASSIFY

DTG MAY 161110
DTR MAY 171815
Year 1980

IMMEDIATE

No.34246

Ambassador BOSE from Foreign Secretary. Personal.

Your letter RAN/NGO/2/80 of 23rd April regarding Netaji SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE's Chair. We have considered this matter and Government feel that the Chair should be exhibited appropriately in that museum in Calcutta which is devoted to the memory of Netaji SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. Later on if necessary Chair will be brought to Delhi and kept in Red Fort if there is a suitable and secure place available there. We are instructing Officer in Charge of this Ministry's Branch Secretariat in Calcutta to meet you on arrival and take delivery of the Chair from you. He will make further necessary arrangements for the Chair. Kindly therefore let me have your precise arrival date and flight timings in Calcutta.

...
~~SECRET~~

AmBos
Ambassador

Satyajit Kaul Kapoor
May 17 1935

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

Telegram

O.T.C.
~~SECRET~~

C.S. No. 51

From: Indembassy Rangoon
To : Foreign New Delhi.

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (सी.एन.डी.)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

DECLASSIFY

DTG: MAY 181815
DTT: MAY 181915
Year 1980

IMMEDIATE

No. 51

Foreign Secretary from Ambassador BOSE. Personal.

Thank you for your telegram No. 34246 of 16 May.
As discussed with Mr. GONSALVES during his visit here we
propose to return to Calcutta by Thai flight on Thursday
the 17th July with Netaji SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE's Chair.

....

SECRET

S. Tyu Paul Kapoor
May 18 1915

Ar. Bu.
Ambassador

Ministry of External Affairs
(Southern Division)

No. S/321/32/78-IV.

July 8, 1980.

172-667/80
14/7

DS CLASSIFIED

Subject:- Chair used by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose -
Question of its display at an appropriate place.

Department of Culture may kindly refer to their
Office Memorandum No.F.23-24/80-CH.5, dated 4th June, 1980
on the subject mentioned above.

2. The question of ^{preservation} presentation of the Chair used by
Netaji as Head of the Azad Hind Government in Rangoon during
World War II was discussed by the Foreign Secretary with
Prime Minister. The Foreign Secretary's minute dated 10th
May, 1980 in this connection is reproduced below:-

"I have discussed the attached paper with PM.
She feels that the chair could be exhibited in
a museum in Calcutta which is devoted to the
memory of Subhash Chandra Bose. In due course,
if necessary, the chair can be brought to Delhi
and kept in the Red Fort if there is a suitable
place available there."

3. As follow-up action, the chair is being brought
to Calcutta by Ambassador Bose on completion of his tenure
in Burma on 17th July, 1980 where it will be taken over
by the Government of West Bengal. Arrangements have been
made by the State Government to display the chair at
Mahajati Sadan where it will be kept for public view for
7(seven) days.

4. Department of Culture are requested kindly to
take over the chair in Calcutta after the exhibition for
further action as indicated in Foreign Secretary's minute
reproduced above.

(Bhadar Sain)
Under Secretary(Burma)

Deptt. of Culture,
(Shri H.S.Jassal, Under Secretary),
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

1. Copy to Shri S. Chattopadhyay, Director, Branch Secretariat,
Ministry of External Affairs, 2, Ballygunge, Park Road,
Calcutta-19 with reference to his letter No. CAL/313/1/80, dt.
4.7.80.

2. Copy also to Shri S.T.Devare, Counsellor, Embassy of
India, Rangoon.

Bhadar Sain
(Bhadar Sain)
Under Secretary(Burma).

Ambassador may
pl see.

14/7